

The Adkins House  
13 North Aurora Street  
Easton, Maryland 21601

T-454  
c1880

This house was one of the earliest dwellings built on the two blocks of North Aurora Street called "Silk Stocking Row" because of the wealthy citizens who built their houses here during the late and mid nineteenth century. A two and one-half story frame building, the steeply pitched front gable gives the building a strong vertical quality. The back garden, with curving paths and beds of flowers is unchanged since the late nineteenth century.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

210494 5604  
T 454

Town of Easton

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Adkins House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

13 North Aurora

CITY, TOWN

Easton

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

FIRST

STATE

Maryland 21601

COUNTY

Talbot

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Miss Edith D. Adkins

Telephone #: 301-822-1545

STREET &amp; NUMBER

13 North Aurora

CITY, TOWN

Easton

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21601

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Talbot County Court House

Liber #: 027

Folio #: 233

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This house is located on the west side of Aurora Street. It sets about fifteen feet from the sidewalk and is shaded by several large trees.

The structure is a two-story plus attic, three bay frame dwelling. The tall gable roof that covers the attic is nearly a story in height. The major gable faces the street; a second gable forms a "T" at the rear and gable terminates with a bay window on the first floor, north. This building is of the side hall plan type.

Openings are evenly spaced across the front of the building. Windows have frames trimmed with a bead, and two over two sashes. Louvered shutters, painted black, are used at window openings. Centered in the front gable at the attic is a small window; its upper sash has a boarder of small panes.

The main entrance is in the northern bay; there are double doors, each with two raised and beveled panels.

A large porch once ran across the front and along the sides to the crossing gable. It was one story in height and about eight feet in depth. When it was removed in recent years, an old sidewalk to the front door was found indicating that there may have been an earlier, smaller porch. The present porch is a small, uncovered one; the balustrade is made of parts reassembled from the previous porch. Vinyl siding installed after 1970, covers the original German ship lap siding and the cornice details.

The rear garden is maintained as laid out in the late nineteenth century, probably by the builder. It has curving walks, and beds of flowers and herbs. It is shaded by a splendid bold cyprus and a magnolia.

The two outbuildings remain. The woodhouse with verticle boarding and a shingle roof probably dates from the time of construction of the house. There is also a shingled garage.

The inside of this house remains asbuilt; the stair has an open-string course and step bracketts. Mantles are either wooden with Greek details or marbelized slate. There is a fine corner cupboard in the dining room.

The house is in excellent condition. Although the appearance of the exterior is changed by removal of the porch and addition of the vinyl siding, the house with its outbuildings and gardens retains the character of a nineteenth century dwelling.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

ERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES	C1880	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
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## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house was one of the earliest dwellings built on the two blocks of Aurora Street that were called "Silk Stocking Row" because of the wealthy citizens who lived there during the late nineteenth century. Although the exterior of the structure is somewhat altered, the interior details and the garden remain as a document of the life style of well-to-do residents of a small town. The garden is a fine example of the type of American domestic garden influenced by the picturesque "English gardens" of the early and mid-nineteenth century.

L58/F198

Adm. Acct.  
16/86  
L56/F39  
L66/F547  
L81/F180

L135/F207  
JL527/F207

In 1844 Thomas Faulkner bought an acre of land on the west side of Aurora Street and paid the considerable sum, for those days, of \$1149.50. The property had been in the possession of Miss Sophie Goldsborough, whose heirs sold it to John Bell, in 1841, for \$800.00. Faulkner went bankrupt, and at a Sheriff's sale, Sam Hambleton picked it up as an investment and turned it over, ten years later, for \$450.00 to Mrs. Susan Powell. In 1875, Mrs. Julia Robson bought a part of this tract for \$400.00. Mrs. Robson's husband Thomas had been proprietor of the Union Hotel and was publisher of the "Easton Star" newspaper but lost all his property during the War. Enough was salvaged however to build a house on this lot and Mrs. Robson lived here for twenty-five years. Her only child, Ada, who had married Lawrence Bruff of Washington, D.C., sold her inheritance for \$3500.00 to William H. Adkins in 1901. By Trust Agreement and Will, the house and gardens are now owned by his daughter, Miss Edith Adkins.

Judge William Hughlett Adkins was an eminent jurist and citizen of the town. He added considerably to Mrs. Robson's earlier house, while the present structure lacks much of the ornateness of the other homes along the street, it truly represents the quality of life of the early nineteenth hundreds along "Silk Stocking Row".

T-454

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Deeds and Land Records, Talbot County Court House.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY NA

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

NA

**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE	<u>None</u>	COUNTY
STATE		COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

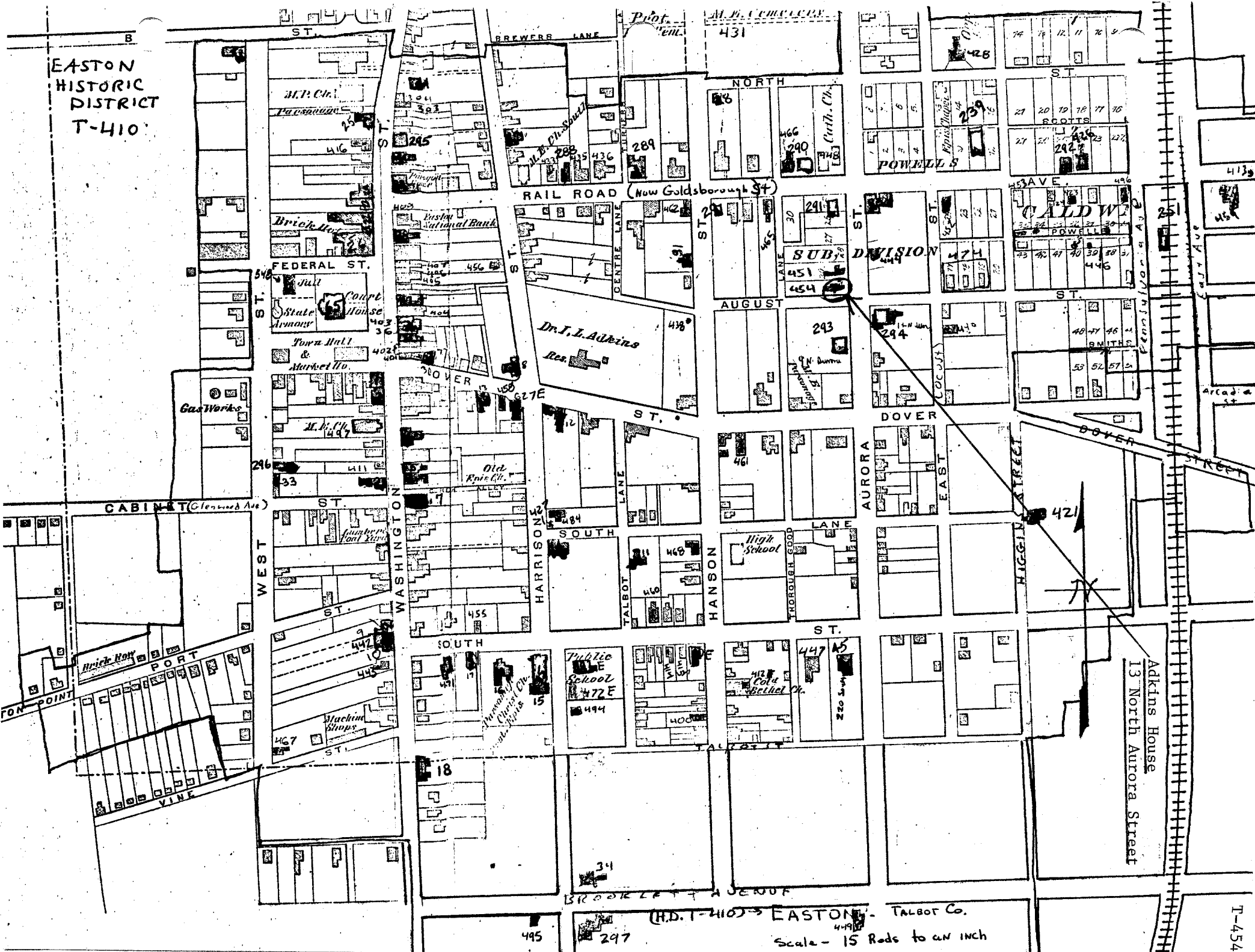
NAME / TITLE	<u>Marsha L. Fritz, Consultant</u>	<u>Cynthia B. Ludlow, Research Historian</u>
ORGANIZATION	<u>Historic Easton, Incorporated</u>	DATE <u>September 9, 1976</u>
STREET & NUMBER	<u>Box 1171</u>	TELEPHONE <u>Mr. Paul Parsons,</u> <u>301-822-2706</u> President
CITY OR TOWN	<u>Easton</u>	STATE <u>Maryland 21601</u>

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

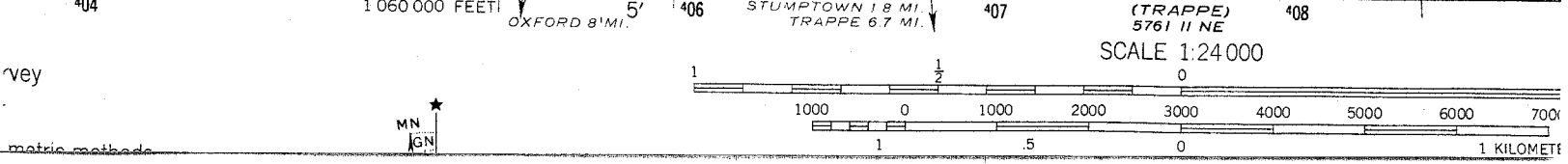
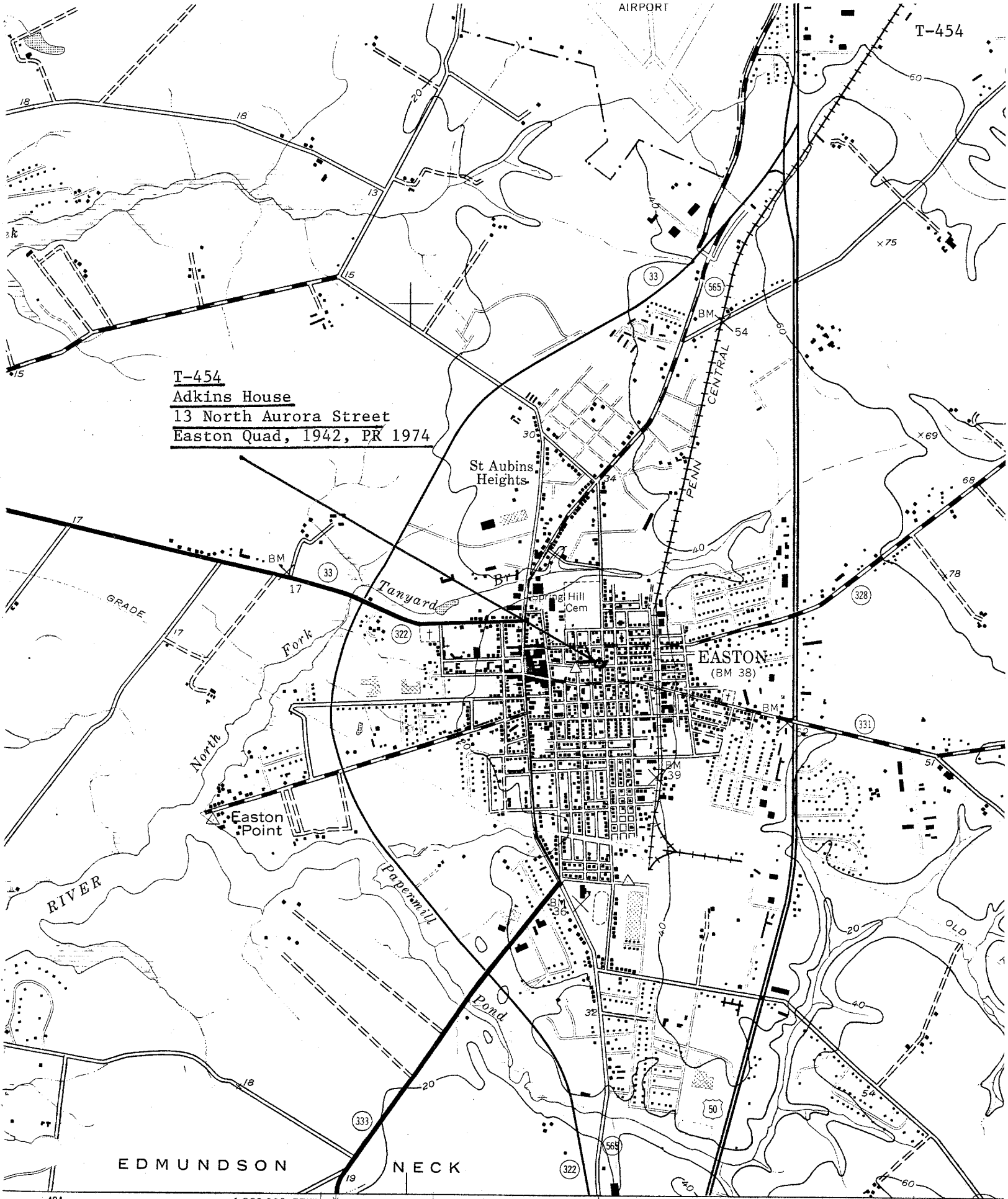
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

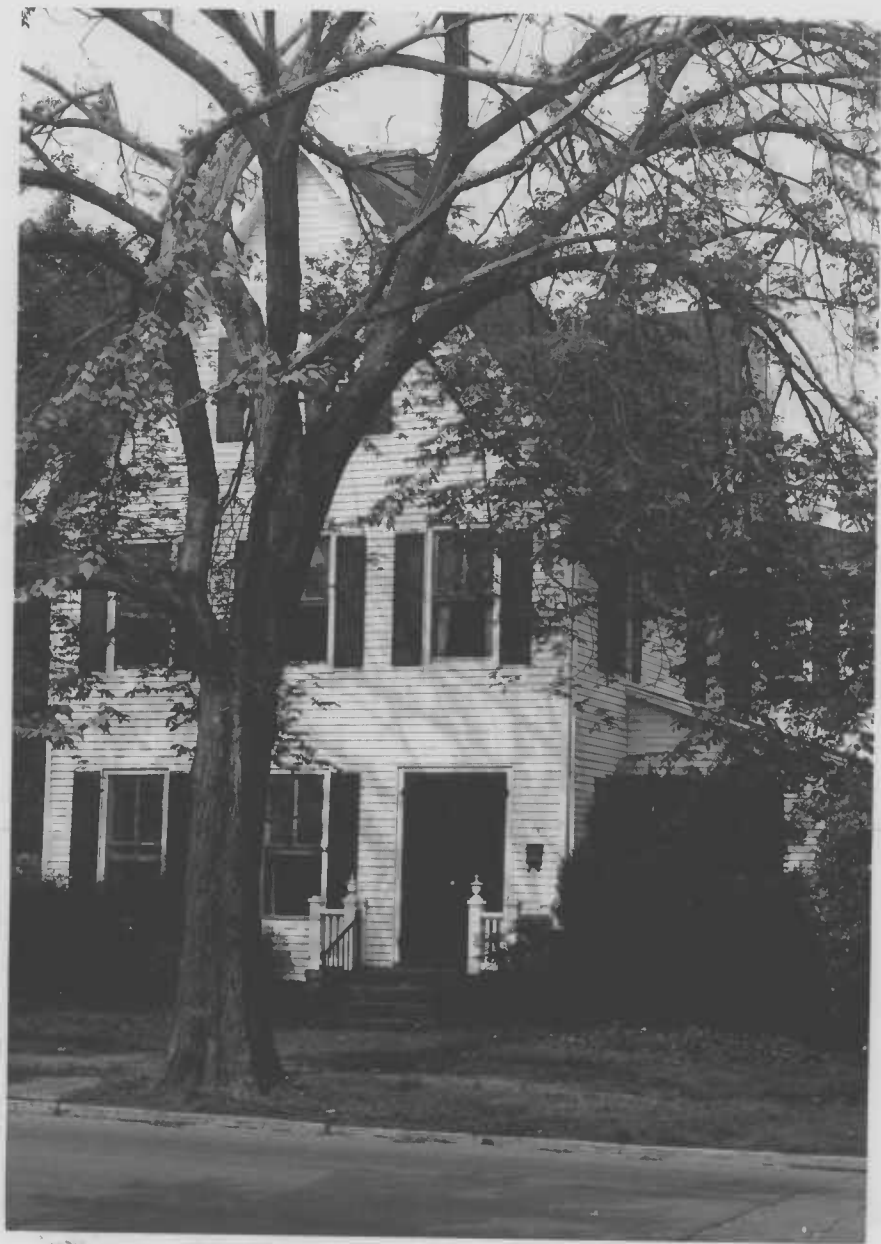
EASTON  
HISTORIC  
DISTRICT  
T-410



(H.D. T-410) - EASTON - TALBOT CO.  
Scale - 15 Rods to an inch

T-454  
 Adkins House  
 13 North Aurora Street  
 Easton Quad, 1942, PR 1974





14 x 1.84

52%

454



ADKINS HOUSE

T-454

13 No. AURORA

EASTON, MD.

EAST FACADE

AUGUST 1976

MLFRITZ

